

REMARKS

The formal matters in the claims have been taken care of by amendment.

The limitations of claims 20 and 23 have been added to claim 15 and also to claim 25, thereby placing the only two independent claims in condition for allowance, and hence the claims that depend therefrom.

Of course, claims 20 and 23 are canceled as redundant of thus-amended claims 15 and 25.

Reconsideration is accordingly respectfully requested, for the rejection of the claims as anticipated by SMITH or KING or LUNDHOLM or LOSSIUS or the French patent to CARRARD.

The present invention is characterized in that the plate is planar, and also as to the location of the openings as recited in what was claim 20, now part of the basic claims.

The claims are thus distinguished over the French patent. Moreover, neither LUNDHOLM nor LOSSIUS has a corresponding location of the openings as recited in what was claim 20.

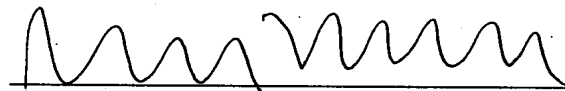
The location and arrangement of the edges and the openings enables the plate to jut out from the user when in use. This is not true of the references, and so the claim distinctions by which these differences are brought out with respect to the applied references, render the claims allowable.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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